

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PEKING 02471 01 OF 02 270206Z
ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 NSF-01 NAS-01 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 EB-08 /046 W
-----034431 270224Z /64
R 260848Z OCT 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHC 9015
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 2471

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, TPHY, ESTC, CH

SUBJ: STRONOMY DELEGATION TO THE PRC

REF: STATE 148924

1. SUMMARY. A TEN MEMBER ASTRONOMY DELEGATION VISITED THE PRC SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 24 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRC. THE ASTRONOMERS VISITED OBSERVATORIES AND TALKED WITH CHINESE COUNTERPARTS IN PEKING, KUNMING, SHANGHAI AND NANKING. THEIR ITINERARY ALSO INCLUDED VISITS TO INSTRUMENTS FACTORIES IN SHANGHAI AND NANKING, UNIVERSITIES IN PEKING AND NANKING AND A TOURIST VISIT TO KWEILIN. THE PRC'S SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION WAS QUITE FORTHCOMING IN ARRANGING THE DETAILS OF THE TRIP, AND THE DELEGATION LEFT CHINA WITH THE FEELING THAT THEY HAD MADE A GOOD BEGINNING IN DEVELOPING SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF ASTRONOMY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE CSC-SPONSORED ASTRONOMY DELEGATION VISITED THE PRC FOR FOUR WEEKS SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 24. THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PEKING 02471 01 OF 02 270206Z

DELEGATION, HEADED BY PROFESSOR LEO GOLDBERG OF KITTS PEAK OBSERVATORY, INCLUDED NINE ASTRONOMERS AND ONE SINOLOGIST (SEE REFTEL FOR LIST OF MEMBERS). RICHARD BOCK OF USLO ACCOMPANIED THE DELEGATION.

3. ITINERARY. THE DELEGATION'S INTINERARY INCLUDED STOPS IN PEKING, KUNMING, SHANGHAI, NANKING AND

KWEILIN. THEIR FIRST FEW DAYS IN PEKING WERE TAKEN UP LARGELY BY TOURISM AND PARTICIPATION IN THE OCTOBER 1 NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS. FOLLOWING THIS, THEY VISITED PEKING OBSERVATORY'S THREE STATIONS AT SHAHO (SOLAR), HSINGLUNG (STELLAR), AND MYUN (RADIO ASTRONOMY). PART OF THE DELEGATION STAYED OVERNIGHT AT HSINGLUNG FOR EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE STAFF. VISITS WERE ALSO ARRANGED TO PEKING UNIVERSITY, THE ASTRONOMY LIBRARY OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, AND THE ACADEMY'S COMPUTER INSTITUTE.

4. THE KUNMING STAY INCLUDED A VISIT TO THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING KUNMING OBSERVATORY, AS WELL AS TOURIST JAUNTS TO THE STONE FOREST (SHIH LIN) IN LUNAN COUNTY AND TO THE TEMPLES OF THE WESTERN HILLS. IN SHANGHAI, THE PROGRAM INCLUDED THE SHANGHAI OBSERVATORY, THE OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS FACTORY, AND A COMMUNE. IN THEIR FIVE DAYS IN NANKING, THE DELEGATION SPENT SEVERAL DAYS AT PURPLE MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY AND ALSO VISITED NANKING UNIVERSITY AND THE NANKING ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS FACTORY. KWEILIN WAS A SIGHTSEEING STOP.

5. WHILE IN PEKING, THE ASTRONOMY DELEGATION, TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL OTHER VISITING AMERICAN GROUPS, WAS GIVEN A WELCOMING BANQUET BY PEKING UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENT CHOU PEI-YUAN. CHOU AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PEKING 02471 01 OF 02 270206Z

NUCLEAR PHYSICIST CHIEN SAN-CHIANG WERE HONORED GUESTS AT A RETURN BANQUET. THE DELEGATION WAS ALSO INVITED TO A SEPTEMBER 30 NATIONAL DAY BANQUET HOSTED BY CHAIRMAN HUA FOR ALL VISITING FOREIGN DELEGATIONS -- THEIR TABLE HOSTS WERE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES VICE PRESIDENT WU YU-HSUN AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE DIRECTOR CHU YUNG-HANG.

6. THE DELEGATION WAS ALSO FETED IN KUNMING BY MA WEN-TUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION OFFICE; IN SHANGHAI BY HSU YEN, HEAD OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE; IN NANKING BY MA KUO-JUI, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE; AND IN KWEILIN BY LI CHI-LU, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PEKING 02471 02 OF 02 270158Z
ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 NSF-01 NAS-01 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 EB-08 /046 W
-----033918 270225Z /64

R 260848Z OCT 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9016
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 PEKING 2471

7. SOME MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION EXPRESSED INITIAL DISAPPOINTMENT THAT NO MEETING HAD BEEN SCHEDULED WITH A LEADING FIGURE SUCH AS FANG YI, BUT THIS CAST ONLY A BRIEF SHADOW ON THE TRIP.

8. LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS. IN EACH OBSERVATORY, MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION HEARD LECTURES BY CHINESE ASTRONOMERS AND GAVE SOME IN RETURN. OPPORTUNITY WAS ALSO FOUND FOR A MORE INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH THEIR CHINESE COUNTERPARTS, PARTICULARLY IN PEKING AND NANKING, WHERE THEY HAD SEVERAL DAYS AVAILABLE FOR LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS. MOST OF THE CHINESE LECTURES TENDED TO BE ON A RATHER THEORETICAL PLANE, WITH THOSE IN PEKING, IN PARTICULAR, OCCASIONALLY VERGING ON THE SPECULATIVE. NEVERTHELESS, MOST DELEGATION MEMBERS FELT THAT THE CHINESE ASTRONOMERS THEY ENCOUNTERED WERE QUITE TALENTED AND COULD MAKE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO SCIENCE GIVEN GREATER ACCESS TO UP-TO-DATE INSTRUMENTS.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. THE INSTRUMENTS OBSERVED WILL BE COVERED IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE. MOST WERE EITHER MADE IN THE PRC OR IMPORTED FROM EAST GERMANY. IN NANKING, A 2.1 METER MIRROR WAS BEING GROUND AFTER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PEKING 02471 02 OF 02 270158Z

APPARENTLY HAVING LAIN IN STORAGE SINCE 1966. WHEN INSTALLED AT HSINGLUNG, IT WILL FORM PART OF CHINA'S LARGEST TELESCOPE.

10. IN NANKING, DELEGATION MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE

OBSERVATORY WOULD LIKE TO BUY US PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES AND GRATINGS FOR A 60 CENTIMETER REFLECTOR TELESCOPE, BUT THAT U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS PROHIBITED THE SALE OF THESE ITEMS. AT LEAST ONE DELEGATION MEMBER MENTIONED HIS INTENTION TO LOOK INTO THIS.

11. THE AMERICAN ASTRONOMERS HAD COMMENDABLY FORWARDED TO PEKING IN ADVANCE A REASONABLY PRECISE PROPOSED ITINERARY, AND THEIR CHINESE HOSTS MET THEM ON ARRIVAL WITH A DETAILED ITINERARY WHICH SATISFIED MOST OF THEIR DESIRES. THE CHINESE ASTRONOMERS PROVED QUITE FORTHCOMING ABOUT ARRANGING INFORMAL EVENING DISCUSSIONS, OCCASIONALLY OVER DINNER IN THE HOTEL WITH THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION PICKING UP THE TAB. IN GENERAL, THE CHINESE ASTRONOMERS WERE EAGER TO LEARN OF THE LATEST DIRECTIONS ASTRONOMY WAS TAKING IN THE WEST AND TO SOLICIT THE VISITORS' OPINIONS ON THEIR OWN WORK.

12. PROFESSOR NATHAN SIVIN, THE CHINA SCHOLAR ACCOMPANYING THE DELEGATION, WAS GIVEN A SEPARATE SERIES OF MEETINGS IN PEKING AND NANKING WITH CHINESE SCHOLARS WORKING IN HIS SPECIALTY, THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE, AND WAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE FREEDOM TO JUGGLE HIS SCHEDULE. THE PRC HOST ORGANIZATION'S WILLINGNESS TO ACCOMMODATE A SEPARATE PROGRAM FOR A SINOLOGIST IS TO OUR KNOWLEDGE UNPRECEDENTED.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PEKING 02471 02 OF 02 270158Z

13. CONCLUSION. DELEGATION MEMBERS WITHOUT EXCEPTION CONSIDERED THE VISIT A SUCCESS. WHILE LEARNING A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE PRESENT STATE OF CHINESE ASTRONOMY, THEY ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF PRC ASTRONOMERS WHICH THEY HOPE TO DEVELOP EXTENSIVELY IN THE FUTURE. IF THE MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED BY THIS VISIT CONTINUES, AND IF CHINESE POLICY CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE FOREIGN SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES, ONE CAN EXPECT A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINESE AND AMERICAN ASTRONOMERS.
DEAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASTRONOMY, SCIENTIFIC VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING02471
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770394-0161
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771021/aaaaarfo.tel
Line Count: 215
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 63862227-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 148924
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 789507
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRONOMY DELEGATION TO THE PRC
TAGS: OEXC, TPHY, ESTC, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/63862227-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009